



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR OF FISHERIES

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The first report on the early season pack of salmon in Alaska, released here today by Coordinator of Fisheries Harold L. Ickes, indicated a pack of 328,036 cases by June 30, or slightly below the average production of the past five years.

The pack to the end of June, which represents only the first scattered salmon fishing activity in the Territory, comprised 236,181 cases packed in Central Alaska, 77,116 cases in Western Alaska, and 14,739 cases in Southeastern Alaska, it was announced.

Last year on approximately the same date, only 222,075 cases had been packed, the small pack being due, in part, to labor difficulties which delayed the opening of the Bristol Bay season.

Earlier this year Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, deputy coordinator of fisheries, predicted that the total salmon pack in Alaska this year would be about five million cases, or somewhat larger than the 1944 pack, although below normal production.

Regardless of the size of the pack, canned salmon will remain an extremely scarce item as far as civilians are concerned, officials of the Coordinator's Office said. Eighty per cent of the season's production has been requisitioned by the Government for war purposes.

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